

## People and Things of Public Interest

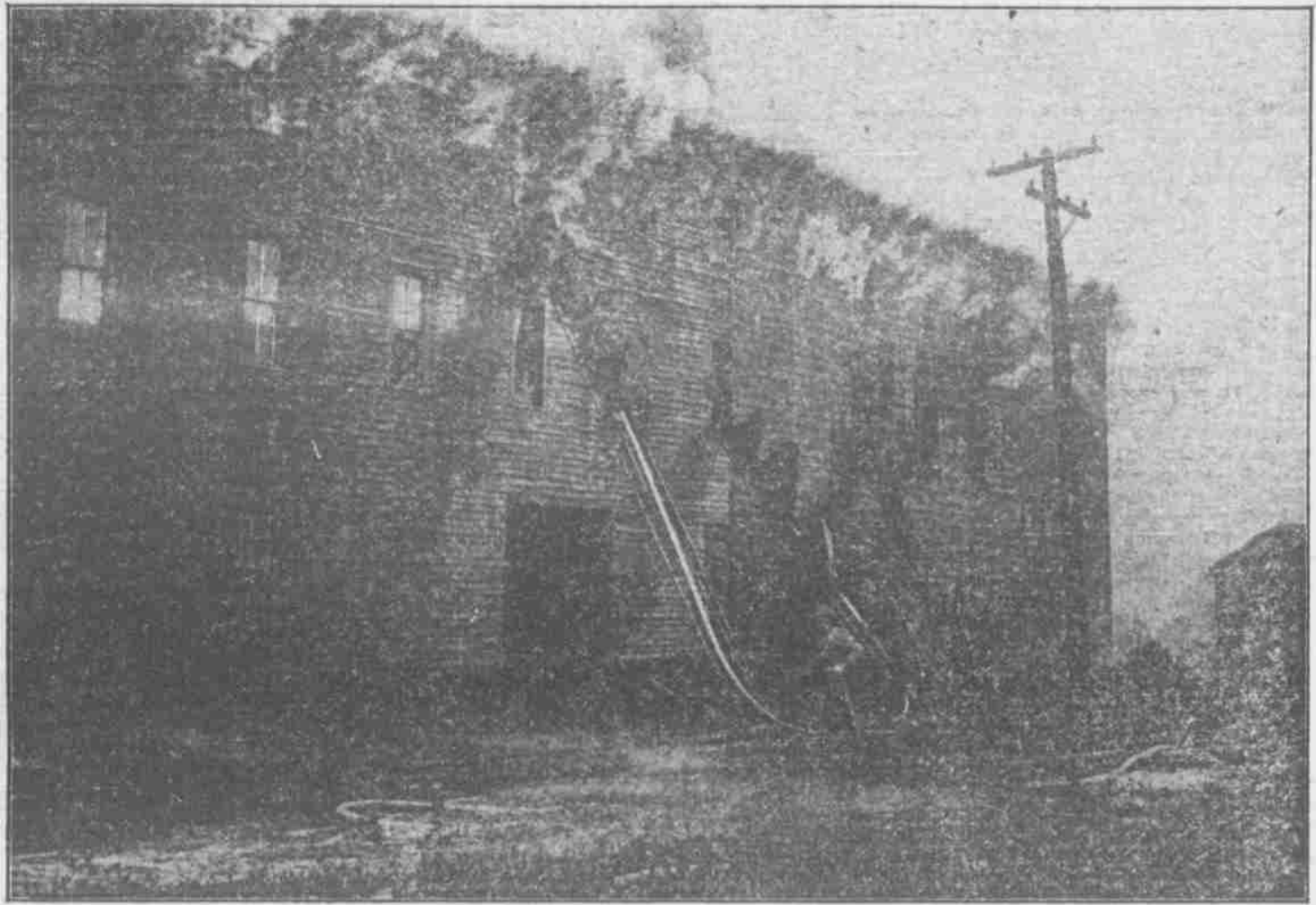


GROUP OF ELDERLY LADIES OF KEARNEY, Neb., WHO RECENTLY ATTENDED A RECEPTION GIVEN BY THE EPWORTH LEAGUE OF THE FIRST METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE MIDWAY CITY.

**G**EOERGE W. BERGE, the fusion nominee for governor, is an Illinois contribution to Nebraska, he having removed from that state to Lincoln fourteen years ago. Mr. Berge came to Nebraska a lawyer and a populist, and he has remained both with equal persistency and consistency ever since, though his populism has been somewhat marred, according to the mid-landers, by his ever willingness to "fuse" with the democrats. This little cloud on his populism alienated from him the affections of Edmisten populists before the conventions brought to his support liberal populists and liberal democrats. As a lawyer Mr. Berge has been successful, his ability at once placing him in the front ranks of the profession. As a citizen the people of Lincoln hold him in high esteem, though a majority have been unable to see just as he does in a political way. In 1900 Mr. Berge was the fusion nominee for congress and though defeated he secured a larger vote than was cast for the Bryan electors. For three years he was president of the state Epworth League. Mr. Berge was once before a nominee for an office and on that occasion it was a case of the office seeking the man. This was when he was the prohibition candidate for county attorney of Lancaster county. The name was put on the ticket during the absence from Lincoln of Mr. Berge and he was in ignorance of the matter until his return two days before the election. The fusion nominee is not a prohibitionist, but he allowed the ticket to stand, under protest.

One of the fiercest fires the Omaha firemen have had to contend with in a long time was that which destroyed the big workshop of the Omaha Bedding company. The inflammable nature of the contents made the end of the affair almost certain at the beginning, even though it did break out in broad daylight. The building had been closed for the regular Saturday half-holiday, and something like two hours afterward the flames were discovered. As soon as possible the firemen were at work, and a Bee photographer happened along with his camera when the blaze was at its height, getting a couple of splendid pictures of the firemen at work, one of which is shown on this page.

With the Epworth league of the First Methodist Episcopal church of Kearney, Neb., it has become a custom to set apart a day each year for a reception to the elderly women of the city. On Thursday, July 25, the sixth of these annual gatherings was held in the spacious home of Mrs. Becket. A large number of invitations were issued and sixty responded by their presence. Carriages conveyed the guests to and from the place of meeting and the shut-ins were remembered with flowers and dainty lunches. Under the careful management of Mrs. C. D. Moore, president of the department of mercy and help, with the aid of her committees, the comfort and enjoyment of every guest was assured. The many expressions of enjoyment have led to the suggestion that next year the elderly men be invited to share in this entertainment. When all were assembled Dr. A. C. Mastin, the pastor, led in prayer. Several musical numbers and a recitation were given by members of the league. Mrs. L. E. Collins, who resided there before the city of Kearney was located, in an informal way drew from the company many interesting reminiscences, especially from a few who were her associates in these early days. One song, by Mrs. Botford, an aged woman, deserves special mention. It was a hymn of the long ago and was highly appreciated by her hearers. A dainty luncheon was served and after much cordial exchange of good fellowship the company dispersed feeling they had passed a most delightful afternoon. And many were the kindly expressions of appreciation to the earnest young people who had made this pleasure possible to them.



SCENE AT THE FIRE WHICH DESTROYED THE WORK SHOP OF THE OMAHA BEDDING COMPANY.—Photo by a Staff Artist.



GEORGE W. BERGE OF LINCOLN, POPULIST-DEMOCRATIC NOMINEE FOR GOVERNOR OF NEBRASKA.

### 'The Typewriter's Father

With the death of John M. Jones of Palmyra, N. Y., at his home there recently, the business world loses a man who did much toward making possible the typewriters of commerce of today. He it was who perfected the first typewriter ever made—in 1855. Mr. Jones was an inventor of some note, but he was best known to the world through that achievement. Nearly every machine shop in the country today is using something that John Jones invented. His whole life was given up to study and invention, but with all his works the one that brings him most prominently before the world is his invention of the typewriter.

The typewriting machine invented by him in 1855 was the first one ever built and the first one ever patented. Mr. Jones had some difficulty in finding anybody who would manufacture the machines, as there was less letter writing in those days than there is now; but even under the conditions that prevailed then he manufactured and sold over 200 of the machines. At the World's fair in Chicago in 1893 Mr. Jones' machine was the first one in the line, showing the advancement made in them since they were first manufactured.—New York Commercial.

### Reflections of a Spinster

Faith is believing a thing that you would like to be true, but you know isn't.

When a man insists upon standing upon his dignity, it's about ten to one that that's about all he has to stand upon.

People sneer at women's lack of admiration for others of their sex, but it's a fact that one doesn't find a man going around praising his fellow man, either.

One of the types of selfishness, and one that is impossible to forgive, is the man who persists in talking about himself when we want to talk about ourselves.—Baltimore American.